

August 31, 2006

Comments on EIS scoping for the LIOWP Project
Minerals Management Service, MS 5412
1201 Elmwood Park Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70123

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my comments in response to the Long Island Offshore Wind Park (LIOWP) as proposed by the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) and Florida Power and Light Company (FPL Energy). As the elected County Legislator for the community in which the LIOWP will be situated, I am expressing my concerns on behalf of the affected residents, neighborhoods, businesses and civic associations.

I represent a portion of Long Island that is heavily dependent on clean beaches and ocean to support a tourism, mariner, and fishing economy. Given the broad socio-economic and environmental effects that any offshore coastal activity could have on Long Island's coastline, therefore, I am advocating that your examination and environmental impact study (EIS) be as protective and thorough as possible.

In the event of a negative EIS what no-action alternative has been examined or presented by LIPA/FPL? What alternative sites have been proposed by LIPA?

What no-action alternative has been examined or presented by LIPA & FPL? In the event of a negative EIS, what alternative site is provided?

What will be the comprehensive impact of the disruption of the benthic community? Moreover, what affect will the disturbance have on the food chain? How does LIPA/FPL intend to mitigate a benthic disturbance?

How will Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) construction disturb the clam farming, and squid fisheries that are located at the LIPA/FPL proposed site? Specifically, what affect will monopole wind turbine installation, maintenance, and operation have on the Essential Fish Hatcheries (EFH) that is located on the LIPA/FPL site? Will 40 monopole wind-turbines have a harmful affect on the natural environment of any endangered species? How will LIPA/FPL address a notification procedure for endangered species, sightings, entrapments, etc?

What will impairments will be created by the erection of a monopole wind turbine, spanning 447 feet in length to fish, birds and migratory marine animals? How would related construction activities modify ecological relationships both during erection and, thereafter, upon completion? What kind of an economic impact would an EFH disturbance have on the local mariner and fishing industry?

What criteria will the MMS utilize to determine the overall environmental impact from: 1) Noise vibration above and below the water, 2) sediment resuspension and redistribution, 3) height of structures above sea level, 4) artificial electric and magnetic fields, 5) total project footprint, and 6) blade rotation.

Will the environmental study analyze how the project will benefit the environment, and in what way will the EIS demonstrate the percentage of carbon dioxide and other harmful pollutants that are offset by the LIOWP?

What alternative analysis has LIPA provided? Different project sizes? What alternate configurations are being studied? What factors does LIPA/FPL cite in arguing that the LIOWP proposed site is the best site, and most suited for alternative energy development?

With respect to alternatives has LIPA/FPL addressed the sustainability of alternate sites to accommodate design requirements, essential environmental impact mitigation, a compatibility of regional objectives, accessibility of the site, and additional economic considerations?

Has LIPA/FPL addressed alternative project sizes: to increase or decrease project size to minimize possible impacts, to increase or decrease project size to correspond to community and public needs, and the potential for a tiered approach to turbine erection?

Has LIPA/FPL (the project developer), indicated acceptance of the financial responsibility for dismantling and removing the alternate energy production facility and restoration of the OCS, at the end of the projects life? Has LIPA/FPL proposed an alternative use for the facility at the end of its life span?

Will LIPA/FPL disclose the estimated profits the project will yield during its operational life, and what percentage of said profits will be remitted to the state, federal government, and local municipalities as compensation for use of public lands?

Will MMS require LIPA/FPL to place funds in escrow before the project is developed for the decommissioning process? Has LIPA/FPL indicated that they will do so?

How will LIPA/FPL dispose of pollutants associated with regular turbine operation? Has LIPA/FPL developed a disaster response plan to mitigate the environmental impact of a monopole wind turbine substantially malfunctioning in coastal

waters? Has LIPA developed an emergency plan and notification chart for all levels of government: local, county, state, and federal?

What criteria will be used to clearly illustrate how the LIOWP, a project occurring on public lands and utilizing public resources, will provide a public benefit? How will LIPA explicitly demonstrate that the LIOWP is wholly in the public interest?

Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment on this important matter.

Sincerely,

//S/ WAYNE R. HORSLEY

Legislator Wayne R. Horsley
Chairman Economic Development,
Higher Education and Energy Committee
Suffolk County Legislature